

ALTERNATIVE PASS MEASURES FOR THE MICHIGAN TEST FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROFESSIONAL READINESS EXAMINATION

Q1. Are the ACT and the Michigan Merit Examination (MME) scores now an option to be used as alternative pass measures for the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) Professional Readiness Examination (PRE)?

A1. Yes, effective May 9, 2014, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) approved a policy that ACT and MME scores and a -1 Standard Error of Measurement (SEM) adjustment may be used in lieu of passing the three PRE subtests (reading, mathematics, and writing). This policy applies for any teacher candidate, retroactive to October 5, 2013 when the PRE began.

Q2. What are the required alternative scores?

A2. ACT scores equivalencies are:	MME equivalencies are:
Mathematics 22	Mathematics 1116
Reading 22	Reading 1108
English+Writing 24	Writing 1129

The ACT English+Writing is a combined score found on *The ACT Plus Writing Student Report*, or the combined score may be calculated from an online ACT English/Writing score calculator at:

<http://www.actstudent.org/writing/combined.html>

Separate ACT English or Writing scores are not acceptable.

Before the -1 SEM adjustment option may be used a teacher candidate must achieve passing performance on two of the three PRE subtests, or the ACT or MME equivalents. When using the -1 SEM adjustment, one scaled score of less than 220 may be used to gain total PRE passing status.

WARNING:

The -1 SEM adjustments may change with each PRE administration. Adjustment updates will be posted on the MTTC website at:
www.mttc.nesinc.com.

Consult the MTTC website for up-to-date -1 SEM adjustments, as incorrect -1 SEM adjustment will not be accepted:
www.mttc.nesinc.com/MI17_PRE_table.asp.

Q3. How does a candidate use the alternative passing measures?

A3. For in-state candidates:

- A Michigan Educator Preparation Institution (EPI) may accept an ACT student report directly from ACT Inc.
- An EPI may make a copy of the official ACT student report provided by a teacher candidate. An EPI is responsible to develop means to demonstrate copied ACT report is accurate and true report from date of national administration. One means may be to require candidate's dated sign-off on a statement regarding the truth and accuracy of ACT score report. See Q&A#10 below.
- An EPI must not accept Residual ACT score report. Residual ACT score report is not recognized as official ACT score report because a residual ACT test is not administered under standard conditions by ACT Inc.
- An EPI may make a copy of an official MME score report provided by a teacher candidate. There is not a means for providing the MME score report directly to an EPI, nor to candidates from the MDE. Candidates who do not have MME scores should attempt to obtain an official duplicate copy from the high school attended.
- An EPI may use ACT and/or MME subarea performance reported on high school transcript.

For out-of-state candidates:

- MDE only accepts ACT scores directly from ACT Inc.
- The MDE will accept MME score reports from candidates. For example an out-of-state candidate may have MME score from a time when the candidate attended a Michigan high school. In such cases, the same rules apply as stated above for obtaining an MME score report and accepting a score report directly from candidate.

Q4. What if a candidate did not take the ACT English and writing test on the same date?

A4. Use the ACT English+Writing score calculator from online location (<http://www.actstudent.org/writing/combined.html>) to combine the separate English-and Writing scores from different administration dates.

Q5. What if a candidate did not take the ACT Writing test at all?

A5. The candidate does not qualify for using the ACT English+Writing alternative pass measure option.

If a candidate wants to qualify for the combined ACT English+Writing, the candidate must take and pass the ACT Writing at a sufficient level. The

candidate may have to register for full ACT Plus Writing test in order to complete Writing portion; please consult ACT Inc. website for guidance.

Consult the online combined ACT English+Writing score calculator to determine the ACT Writing score necessary to achieve combined ACT English+Writing score of 24 at:

<http://www.actstudent.org/writing/combined.html>.

Q6. How far back in time may a candidate use ACT or MME scores, and -1 SEM adjustment?

A6. Currently ACT and MME scores from 1989 to the present may be used provided the ACT scores are from national date of administration. The MDE may modify this date if ACT test conditions change, as published by ACT Inc. NOTE: The ACT writing test began during 2005.

The -1 SEM adjustment may be used from October 5, 2013 to the present.

WARNING: the -1 SEM adjustment may change with each PRE administration, make sure you consult the MTTC website, for up-to-date -1 SEM adjustment scores at: www.mttc.nesinc.com.

Q7. May a candidate use a combination of the different alternative measures to achieve the equivalent of passing the PRE?

A7. Yes. Any combination of ACT, MME, and PRE subtest scores equivalent to at least the 220 PRE scale score is acceptable.

The -1 SEM adjustment may be used with any combination of two (2) ACT, MME, and/or PRE subtest score(s) that are equivalent to at least the 220 PRE scale score. The OPPS does not consider the -1 SEM alternative scale score date in relation to the dates of the two ACT, MME, and PRE subtests demonstrating equivalency to a least 220 PRE scale score. The only -1 SEM date OPPS consider is the correct, direct alignment of a -1 SEM scale score to the date published in the MTTC website: www.mttc.nesinc.com.

Examples:

- A teacher candidate may use passing of the PRE reading (at least 220 scale score) from Jan 4, 2014, with 22 or better on the ACT mathematics from 2012, and -1 SEM from Oct 5, 2013 PRE administration (earning from 202 through 219 scaled score).
- A teacher candidate may use passing of the MME reading (at least 1108 scale score) from 2012, with passing of the PRE mathematics (at least 220 scale score) from May 2014, and 24 or better on the ACT Combined English+Writing from 2013.

Basic Skills Test (BST) subtests are not equivalent to PRE subtests. Therefore, BST subtest performance may not be used with -1 SEM alternative pass measure for PRE.

Q8. If a candidate took the ACT test for college/university admission may the candidate take an ACT reading, mathematics, or English+Writing test to try for a higher score?

A8. Yes.

Q9. Will a PRE test taker who pays \$50 registration fee for paper-based PRE and takes only one (1) PRE subtest receive a partial refund for not attempting or not taking other two (2) PRE subtests?

A9. No, a partial refund will not be issued. Partial PRE refunds are only issued for paper-based PRE subtests previously passed and not retaken or reattempted during subsequent paper-based PRE testing. See further details in the MTTC Test Fees and Payment Policies for Paper-Based Testing:
http://www.mttc.nesinc.com/MI17_testfees.asp?pagetype=PBT.

Q10. Who is responsible for ensuring the accuracy and correctness of a student's/teacher candidate's ACT score reports, MME score reports, and -1 SEM adjustments?

A10. Ultimately a student/teacher candidate is legally responsible to ensure all score reports provided to a MI EPI or to the MDE for use as alternative pass measure for the PRE are accurate and free from modification or enhancement.

An EPI must practice due diligence in validating accuracy of ACT and/or MME score reports received from teacher candidates. See Q/A#3 above for example of due diligence in practice. An EPI should consult EPI's legal advisors for review and approval of validation practices adopted and published.

MI EPIs and the MDE will retain all records indicating PRE equivalencies in candidates' files with clear evidence how the PRE equivalencies were used instead of the PRE subtests.

Q11. Will the Michigan Online Educator Certification System (MOECS) accept alternative measures for the PRE?

A11. MOECS is not setup at this time to accept alternative measures. The MDE is currently working on necessary MOECS enhancements. Applicants and MI EPIs will be informed as soon as MOECS is modified to accept the alternative measures.